

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-14: (canceled).

15 (previously presented): A process for producing a methanol, comprising reacting an alcohol in the presence of an alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide, and/or an alkaline earth metal-type catalyst, and a catalyst containing Cu simultaneously with Mn and/or Re to obtain a methanol from carbon monoxide and hydrogen.

Claims 16-27: (canceled).

28 (currently amended): A catalyst for producing a methanol from an alcohol, which is composed of an alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide, and/or an alkaline earth metal-type catalyst, and a catalyst containing Cu simultaneously with Mn and/or Re.

29 (currently amended): A process for producing a methanol, comprising reacting carbon monoxide with an alcohol in the presence of an alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide, ~~and/or~~ or a combination of an alkaline earth metal-type catalyst and an alkali metal-type catalyst other than an ~~alkaline~~ alkali metal alkoxide to produce a formic ester, wherein a hydrogenolysis catalyst for formic ester and hydrogen are allowed to be present together in the reaction system to hydrogenate the produced formic ester and thereby obtain a methanol.

30 (currently amended): A process for producing a methanol, comprising reacting carbon monoxide with an alcohol

in the presence of an alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide, ~~and/or~~ or a combination of an alkaline earth metal-type catalyst and an alkali metal-type catalyst other than an ~~alkaline~~ alkali metal alkoxide to produce a formic ester, separating the produced formic ester and hydrogenating the separated formic ester by allowing a hydrogenolysis catalyst and hydrogen to be present together, thereby obtaining a methanol.

31 (previously presented): The production process as claimed in claim 15, wherein the alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide and the alkaline earth metal-type catalyst are a catalyst containing an alkali metal salt and a catalyst containing an alkaline earth metal salt, respectively.

32 (currently amended): The production process as claimed in claim 29, wherein the alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide and the alkaline earth metal-type catalyst ~~other than an alkaline metal alkoxide~~ are a catalyst containing an alkali metal salt and a catalyst containing an alkaline earth metal salt, respectively.

33 (currently amended): The production process as claimed in claim 30, wherein the alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide and the alkaline earth metal-type catalyst ~~other than an alkaline metal alkoxide~~ are a catalyst containing an alkali metal salt and a catalyst containing an alkaline earth metal salt, respectively.

34 (currently amended): The process for producing a methanol as claimed in claim 29, wherein the hydrogenolysis

catalyst is a solid catalyst and the alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide, ~~and/or~~ or the combination of the alkaline earth metal-type catalyst and the alkali metal-type catalyst other than ~~an alkaline~~ the alkali metal alkoxide is supported on said solid catalyst and used for the reaction.

35 (currently amended): The process for producing a methanol as claimed in claim 30, wherein the hydrogenolysis catalyst is a solid catalyst and the alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide, ~~and/or~~ or the combination of the alkaline earth metal-type catalyst and the alkali metal-type catalyst other than ~~an alkaline~~ the alkali metal alkoxide is supported on said solid catalyst and used for the reaction.

36 (previously presented): The production process as claimed in claim 15, wherein the alcohol is a primary alcohol.

37 (previously presented): The production process as claimed in claim 29, wherein the alcohol is a primary alcohol.

38 (previously presented): The production process as claimed in claim 30, wherein the alcohol is a primary alcohol.

39 (currently amended): A catalyst for producing a methanol, which is obtained by loading an alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide, ~~and/or~~ or a combination of an alkaline earth metal-type catalyst and an alkali metal-type catalyst other than an ~~alkaline~~ alkali

metal alkoxide on a hydrogenolysis solid catalyst for formic ester.